

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Title of the Invention at page one, line one, with the following amended Title:

A Non-Marring Piston Ring Compressor

Please replace the first paragraph at page one, lines 7-11, with the following amended paragraph:

This application claims priority from ~~pending~~ U.S. provisional application No. 60/435,462, filed December 20, 2002, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference and ~~pending~~ U.S. provisional application No. 60/444,576, filed February 03, 2003, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Please add the following new paragraph at page 10, after the paragraph ending at line 25 of page 10:

FIG. 5 is a non-limiting example of a piston ring compressor comprising a polymer coating. **FIG. 5** is a top end view of the piston ring compressor 1, showing a polymer coating 2 on the inner portion of the ring compressor which contacts a piston and piston rings during assembly.